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finer detail about) the contents of individual packets in the stream and to generate a display of such contents.

Such a graphical depiction on the VDD for the stream of packets can take the form of a matrix of geometric shapes, e.g., a square, each geometric shape representing a packet. Each geometric shape can have an appearance that is indicative of what type the corresponding packet is. Colors can be assigned to the geometric shapes to denote the types of the corresponding packets, respectively. Such technology can also generate a graphical depiction on the VDD of a legend explaining color and packet type relations. Each color in the legend can be depicted in the form of the geometric shape, and each geometric shape can be operable as a pointing-device-clickable button so that, in response to a user clicking on one of the geometric shapes, an interface can be generated by which the color assigned to the geometric shape can be changed by the user.

Such technology can accommodate a stream of packets representing a DTV signal containing multiple video programs. In that situation, different shades of a color representing a type of packet are assigned to denote which one of the multiple video programs corresponds to the geometric shape.

Advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will become more fully understood from the detailed description given hereinbelow and the accompanying drawings which are given by way of illustration only, and thus do not limit the present invention.

Fig. 1 is a snapshot depiction of a dynamic transport stream packet map display according to the invention.

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the office upon request and payment of the necessary fees.